

Connecticut Passive House 6 Maple Street Chester, CT 06412

February 28th, 2022

## S.B. 14 An Act Concerning Home Energy Affordability for Home Buyers

Tuesday, March 1st, 2022, 10:00am

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Representing CT Passive House - President

## Strongly FOR S.B. 14

## Several Positive Considerations:

- 1) Providing renters an Energy Score is basic Consumer Protection: Energy costs are a rapidly increasing percentage of the cost of living. An apartment or small house with electric baseboard heat can exceed \$600 / month in CT winters. Potential renters need to know what they are getting into.
- 2) Energy labels are not the same as past energy bills. They are an Apples-to-Apples comparison of the energy efficiency of comparable buildings. They are similar to the rating of Miles-Per-Gallon for cars.
- 3) Knowing the Energy Score for a building (before buying) allows a buyer to roll the cost of energy improvements into their mortgage. The energy savings can be immediate.
- 4) Home Energy Scores can be obtained for \$50 through Energize CT no cost for those who are income-eligible.
- 5) The requirement for a Home Energy Score raises awareness and encourages energy efficiency improvements.
- 6) Additional Programs are already available for rebates and incentives for property improvements for energy efficiency.
- 7) Better ratings are good for the environment addressing State goals for reductions to green-house gases.
- 8) Jobs are created for Home Raters and local contractors.